

Napoleon frequently talked about his wife and son, whose society at Elba he claimed; is a right, and as a thing indispensable to his happiness. On these topics his language was furious. General K'öhler, on the other hand, insisted that her remaining apart from her husband was entirely voluntary on the part of Maria Louisa. He also expressed an opinion that Napoleon was actuated by other feelings than those of domestic affection, and this, though we believe he tenderly loved his child and his wife also, we can readily believe.

A curious incident made the simple-minded people of Elba believe for a short time that the Empress and the young Napoleon had really been among them to visit the fallen monarch. In August, 1814, a lady with a little boy arrived from Leghorn at Porto-Ferrajo in a very mysterious manner. She was received with distinction, around which, however, Bonaparte threw a certain veil of secrecy. She was lodged in a retired casino, or country-house, in the district frequented partly by the island, where she only stopped two days, and then sailed for Naples. Even some of the French soldiery, who had only seen the lady at a distance, or had not seen her at all, were told by their friends that Maria Louisa had been to visit her husband, and that it was quite certain the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of Austria were in favour of making up matters, and then making common head against the Allies.

The fine little boy was indeed the son of the Empress, but an illegitimate son, and the mysterious lady in question was not Maria Louisa, but a Polish Countess with whom Napoleon had intrigued at Warsaw during the winter of 1807. *

As the winter approached a change

(iswntiUU*. in Napoleon. The alterations which he had planned in the island ceased to interest him, he rode restlessly on his horn back, and sunk occasionally into fits of dæmoniacal cumtumultuous, mingled with gloomy anxiety. "He. Ix't'aim¹, HHH«», "

Sir

Walter Scott, "Brought to view«*ii«ini»?4f.

tcil whlrllt lit* had hitherto been a stranger,
U»itij; that urixing from }mcuniary in-
conveniences. He had plunged inki
«xpi*ti»i'» with intrndont eagerness, and
without wcnghing the* amount of lib rtt i
Sea *mt€*, vol. III p. 75, the Countaxi